

and toes covered with white plumes; claws pale flesh-colour; bill black.

Length from tip of the bill to the end of the tail, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches; of wing, $3\frac{5}{8}$; of tail, $1\frac{5}{8}$; bill to front, $\frac{3}{10}$; to gape, $\frac{7}{16}$; height from chin to front, $\frac{1}{8}$; breadth at front, $\frac{3}{20}$; tarse, $\frac{7}{16}$; middle toe and claw, $\frac{9}{20}$; hind toe, $\frac{7}{20}$.

Hab. Nepal. (No. 963. Hodgs. Catal.)

This interesting bird differs from the type of the genus *Chelidon* by its smaller and more robust bill and by its shorter and even tail; the wings also are shorter. From the genus *Cotyle* it is at once distinguished by its plumed feet.

NOTICE OF SOME NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS CONTAINED IN THE MUSEUM OF THE HON. EAST INDIA COMPANY.

By FREDERIC MOORE, ASSIST. EAST IND. COMP. MUSEUM.

Family MERULIDÆ, Vigors.

Subfamily TIMALINA, Vigors.

Genus PYCTORHIS, Hodgson (1844). *Chrysomma* (Blyth),
Hodgson (1845).

1. PYCTORHIS LONGIROSTRIS, Hodgson.

Forehead, crown, nape, back, rump, upper tail-coverts and tail rufous-brown, deepest on the crown, wings and tail, the last being distinctly rayed; chin, throat, base of lower mandible, middle of belly and vent white; ear-coverts, sides of the neck and breast pale rufescent, brightening on the flanks, thighs and under tail-coverts; under wing-coverts also rufescent; bill black, yellowish beneath at base; legs pale horny.

Length, $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches; of wing, $2\frac{3}{4}$; tail, $3\frac{1}{4}$; bill to frontal plumes, $\frac{5}{8}$; to gape, 1 inch; height from chin to front, $\frac{2}{10}$; tarse, 1 inch; middle toe and claw, $1\frac{1}{10}$; central and lateral ditto, $\frac{7}{10}$; hind ditto, $\frac{7}{10}$.

Hab. Nepal. (No. 892. Hodgs. Catal.)

This bird may be distinguished from *Pyct. sinensis* (better known under the name of *Timalia hypoleuca*) by its larger size, by the lengthened bill, the rufescent colour of the under parts, and by the absence of white before the eye. It may possibly be the species noticed by Mr. I. W. Frith, in the 'Journ. As. Soc. Beng.' xiii. p. 370, as being found in Bengal, which he states "differs from the common species in being about half larger."

I may here notice, in connexion with this genus, that Mr. Hodgson, in 'Proc. Zool. Soc.' 1845, p. 24, refers his genus *Pyctorhis* only to *sinensis*, and not to the bird named *rufifrons*, which is there described as an *Actinodura*, it being synonymous with the species previously described by Mr. Gould under the name of *Actinodura Egertoni*.

Family SYLVIADÆ, Vigors.

Subfamily SYLVIANA, Vigors.

Genus HOREITES, Hodgson.

2. HOREITES MAJOR, Hodgson.

Above olive-brown, ruddier on the wings; tail rounded, more of a dusky-brown, with the outer webs fringed with olive-brown; cap red-brown; a yellowish-ferruginous superciliary streak, extending over the ear-coverts; upper part of the latter ruddy-brown, lower ashy; throat, sides of neck, centre of breast and abdomen ashy-white; sides of the breast and flanks olive-brown; bill dark horn-colour, yellowish at base beneath; feet also yellowish.

Length, 5 inches; of wing, $2\frac{1}{2}$; tail, $2\frac{2}{10}$, outer feather $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch shorter than the middle; bill to front, $\frac{5}{8}$; to gape, $\frac{5}{8}$; tarsus, $\frac{9}{10}$; middle toe and claw, $\frac{7}{10}$; inner ditto, $\frac{5}{12}$; outer ditto rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch.

Hab. Nepal. (No. 946. Hodgs. Catal.)

This species may easily be distinguished by its greater size, and larger bill, the wings being much longer, though rounded as in the other species, and by the nearly total absence of ash-colour on the under parts; the feet also are much longer and stronger.

Genus ABRORNIS, Hodgson.

3. ABRORNIS POLIOGENYS, Blyth.

Culicipeta polioGENYS, Blyth, J. A. S. Beng. xvi. p. 441 (1847).

Rhipidura polioGENYS, G. R. Gray, Gen. of Birds, iii. App. p. 12.

Hab. Darjeeling, Nepal. (No. 920. Hodgs. Catal.)

Head and nape, base of lower mandible and ear-coverts dark ash-grey, the loreal feathers tipped with greyish-white; round the eye a clear white ring; back, rump and shoulders bright olive-green; wings dusky black, margined with olive-green, the greater coverts tipped with whitish-yellow; throat greyish-white, the rest of the under parts clear yellow; tail dusky on the six central feathers, which are margined with olive-green, the three outer being greenish-dusky on the terminal half of the outer web, the basal half with the whole of the inner web being white; upper mandible blackish horn-colour, lower yellowish; feet yellowish horn-colour.

Length about $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches; of wing, 2 inches; tail, $1\frac{3}{4}$; bill to front, $\frac{3}{10}$; to gape, $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch; and tarse the same.

"This species is nearly allied to *Abrornis xanthoschistos*, Hodgs., from which it differs in having the cheeks and ear-coverts, with the feathers commencing from the base of the lower mandible, of the same ash-grey colour as the head, and the throat greyish-white, instead of these parts being bright yellow as in that species."

4. ABRORNIS AFFINIS, Hodgson†.

This species is closely allied to *A. polioGENYS*, but differs from it in

† No. 920*, to distinguish it from 920 of Mr. Hodgson's Catalogue.

having the lores, base of lower mandible, lower portion of the ear-coverts, and the chin and throat, the same bright yellow as the rest of the under parts; the feathers of the crown are pale shafted, which is not the case in *poliogenys*; the tail is pale dusky, the two outer feathers only being white on the apical portion of the inner web, the basal portion of which is dusky; the outer web in both is pale dusky green; the other ten are fringed with greenish on the outer web. The wing in *affinis* is a quarter of an inch longer, but has the same markings; the tarsus is also longer by a tenth of an inch. Other characters agree in both species. The bill in this and *poliogenys* is broader than in *A. xanthoschistos*, Hodgson.

Hab. Nepal. (No. 920*. Hodgs. Catal.)

5. ABRORNIS ALBOGULARIS, Hodgson.

Forehead, lores, over and under the eyes to nape, and ear-coverts brightish ferruginous, the crown being dusky ferruginous, passing to yellowish olive-green on the back and shoulders; the rump yellowish; wings black, margined with the colour of the back; tail pale dusky greenish, edged exteriorly throughout with yellowish-green; throat and base of lower mandible white, the feathers black at base; breast bright yellow; abdomen white, vent yellowish; bill horny, paler beneath; feet pale horny; the rictorial bristles black, strong, nearly as long as the bill.

Length, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; of wing, $1\frac{3}{4}$; the first quill $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch shorter than the second; third $\frac{7}{10}$ ths longer than the first; fourth, fifth and sixth nearly equal, the fifth being the longest; tail, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch; bill to frontal plumes, $\frac{3}{12}$; to gape, $\frac{5}{12}$; tarsus, $\frac{6}{10}$; middle toe and claw, $\frac{5}{12}$; hind ditto, $\frac{3}{8}$; tarsus and hind claw strong.

Hab. Nepal. (No. 936. Hodgson's Catal.)

ON THE GENUS MODIOLARCA.

By DR. JOHN EDWARD GRAY, F.R.S., P.B.S., V.P.Z.S. ETC.

In the Synopsis of the British Museum for 1840, pp. 144, 155, I established a family of bivalve shells under the name of *Crenellidæ*, for the genera *Crenella* and *Modiolarca*, taking the character of the family from the animal of *Modiola trapezina*, the type of the genus *Modiolarca*, the only one that had then come under my examination. The following were the characters given:—

“The family of *Crenellidæ* chiefly differs from the former (*Mytilidæ*) in the mantle lobes being united together so as to leave only two posterior holes for the entrance and exit of the water, and a slit for the foot and beard. The hinge-margin is denticulated at each end, and the umbo is nearly central.”

Shortly after, Mr. Alder described the animal of the British *Crenella undulata*, and found that the mantle was nearly as much open as that of the *Modiolæ*, and complained of the inaccuracy of the description; the fact being, that the two genera had very different animals, and that *Crenella* had been wrongly referred to the group, and taken as the patronymic of it.